SARA SKYWAVES

W5SRA

JUNE 2020

MY CORNER OF THE SHACK

by John Smyder, W5JWS

It's May 31st as I write this and, unfortunately, it looks like we are not going to be able to get together to do Summer Field Day as we have the past few years and that is disappointing. I really enjoy the comradery and, for me, the time to experiment and pick the brains of others as we test our emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. We can still do all of that in this time of Covid-19 by taking our home stations and getting them on emergency power, help our neighbors understand why ham radio is so important during an emergency and what we can do to help during an emergency. And, finally, we can hone our technical skills whether it be by handling a pile up on the air, improving our set up to get our signal out more reliably and further, or trying out that new technology we have been playing with. If you do join us on the air this year there are couple of things that will be different. You can still log contacts using your own call sign and Since we will all be operating on our own for Summer Field Day I want to share a couple of links with you.

The ARRL has made a temporary rule changes for this field day: "For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points." They have also stated that "In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).". You can find the full set of rules here: http://www.arrl.org/field-day#rules and the complete text of the temporary changes here: http://www.arrl.org/temporary-rule-waivers-for-arrl-field-day-2020. All the information for how submit you contacts can be found in the first link. N3FJP has field day logging software that is very reasonably priced and it's what we have used for Winter & Summer Field day as a club. You can get a copy here: http://n3fjp.com/.

The board of directors has decided to temporarily suspend the monthly simplex net due to lack of participation at this time. We will continue to work on ideas of how to exercise that critical capability and have some meaningful programs that make that net something that more would want to participate in. Our repeater net will continue each Wednesday at 8pm. If you have ideas for a simplex program or, more importantly, would be willing

Shack, Continued on page 2

The General Meeting Thursday, June 11, will be Online!

Use this Link:

June General Meeting

Or Join by phone: +1 657-529-2382
(PIN: 885 137 891#)

JOIN US ON THE AIR

SARA Weekly Information Net
When: Weekly on Wednesdays, 8:00pm – 8:30pm
Where: N5LOC (145.250, PL 141.3)

~~**SARA Sunday QSO Net**~~
~~When: Every 3rd Sunday, 7:30—8:30pm~~
~~Where: 146.460 (Simplex)~~

Cancelled for now

The Sachse Amateur Radio Association uses the N5LOC repeater in Sachse, TX:

- Frequency: 145.25 MHz
- Shift: -600 kHz
- PL tone: 141.3

Shack, Continued from page

to script one, please reach out to anyone on the board with your ideas and willingness.

Don't forget our new repeater, W5SRA (440.350MHz, +, PL 110.9) is on the air. A set of installation plans were sent to the church for their approval and we are reaching out to see what we need to do for next steps so that we can get it on the church. We have also submitted the call sign information to Repeater Book.

Frequency	Offset	Tone Up / Down	Location	Country		Call	Use
440.3500	+5 MHz	110.9 / 110.9	Sachse	US	TX	W5SRA	OPEN

Finally, our June 11th General Meeting will again be virtual via Google Meet (meeting link). Our presentation this month is going to be on Win-Link. I will demonstrate and walk you through the steps to set up WinLink for VHF using a SignaLink sound card and a TNC software package (SoundModem) that installs between the SignaLink and WinLink Express on your PC. I will share my screen and step through the installation process and run a test to show its operation.

I hope to hear you on the air and 'see' you at the general meeting on the 14th. Take care, stay safe and healthy.

73, W5JWS – John S

Sachse Public Library Meeting Room Remains Closed For Now

From: Tammy VanBuskirk
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 11:32 AM
To: kk6axf@gmail.com
Subject: SPL: Library Meeting Room Reservations

Hello from the Sachse Public Library! We just wanted to let you know that the library meeting room will not be available for rentals for the next several months. This space is being used for filming our virtual story times and to house library furniture that has temporarily been removed from public use. Because of this, we will not be accepting any future reservations at this time. You are welcome to contact me with any questions.

Wishing you a wonderful and safe summer!

Warm regards,

Tammy VanBuskirk

Sachse Public library

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 11—General Meeting

Our May General Meeting will be held via Google Meet
We will be discussing possibilities for the upcoming ARRL Field Day.
Link: June General Meeting

June 25 – Board Meeting

June 27-28 - ARRL Field Day

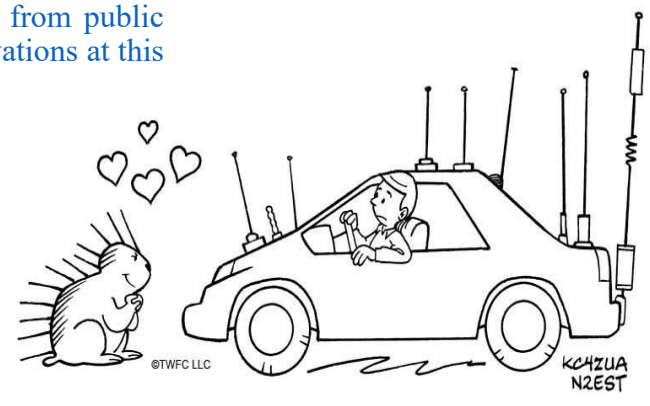
Oct 17 - ARRLNTX Mentor Fest

Details will be posted at the http://arrlntx.org website soon We are very hopeful that by October we are able to have gatherings and proceed with Mentor Fest, but remain flexible for any change.

Wednesday Repeater Net
N5LOC Rptr 145.250, Tone 141.3 @8:00 PM
10 June – Lonnie, KG5WHQ
17 Jun – John, W5JWS
24 Jun - Steve, W5SOT
1 Jul – ?
8 July -- ?

Tuesday SIMPLEX Net -
Canceled for now

Sunday Public Service Net -
N5LOC Rptr 145.250, Tone 141.3 @9:00 PM



Try the new W5SRA Repeater

Good Morning everyone. It has been suggested, that during this time of 'stay home - stay safe', that if we are able, to get on the new repeater (440.350 + PL 110.9) at 10am each day just to chat and check in with each other.

It should be noted that the W5SRA repeater is in a temporary location until we get past this inconvenience and can finalize plans and do the work of getting it in its final location. That said, please understand that coverage may not be optimal at this time.

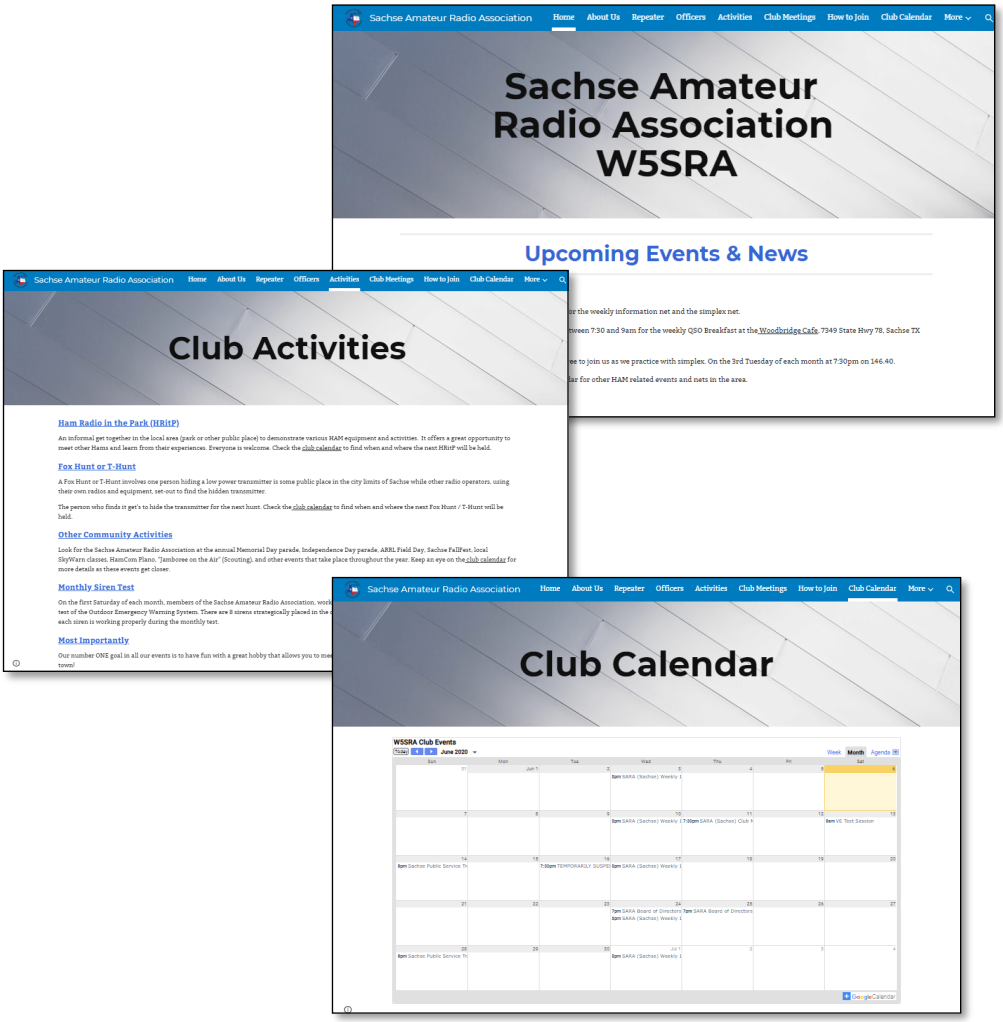
We've also noted that there is a bit of a delay in the repeater picking up the first syllable or two so, while we investigate that, please key, wait a moment, then put your call out there.

I hope to hear you soon.

W5JWS --

Watch for our New SARA Website !

Same URL, New Design! *http://sachseradio.org*. It should be live in the next few days.



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Working on a project that you think the club members would be interested in? Read a good HAM related article somewhere? Send articles to Steve, W5SOT, at: newslettereditor@sachseradio.org

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

SARA vice-president Greg Kent, KK6AXF heads up the SARA Activities Committee. Anyone who is willing to help or has ideas may contact Greg, KK6AXF, at kk6axf@gmail.com.

SARA BRANDED GEAR

We now have two suppliers for SARA gear. Both of these companies have our logo on file.

HamThreads will do hats, shirts, jackets and vests. They can do single items. HamThreads is in Saginaw.
https://www.hamthreads.com

Cactus Awards is local to Wylie and they specialize in Awards, Trophies, Plaques, Engraving and Embroidery as well as Tee-Shirt printing. Minimum order for some clothing is 3.
http://www.cactusawards.com

CALL
Your Name
Sachse, Texas

SARA NAME BADGES

If you need a SARA name badge please go to:
https://namebadge.com/sachse

by Jim Eatman KG5WAW

I was out in the park with the QRP radio again yesterday. The wind was gusting up to 50 miles an hour, and all I could put up that wouldn't blow away was a poor performing, 4 foot vertical antenna. Bad situation, but not the worst. It wasn't cold, and it wasn't raining!

I was lucky. This was a local park, and my car was just a few steps away. It wasn't a SOTA activation, where an hour of climbing with a backpack was involved.

But what if it were a SOTA activation? What if my radio equipment had to be lugged with great effort? What would I be able to take? How long could I operate, and under what conditions? How far could I get?

Here's my experience: It's helpful to have a weak signal mode that doesn't require a computer or a modem. With CW, your head is the computer and the modem.

Pack the best antenna you can. Too-short verticals are convenient, but very inefficient. Thin wire, and ultra-light fiberglass poles can allow you to put something up that works better.

Find a way to leave the tuner at home. If you want your battery to last, you have to operate at very low power. Tuners sap power. My latest tests on one tuner show losses from 0.8 dB to 1.8 dB, depending on frequency and tuner settings.

Coax can be heavy, and involves signal loss – especially at higher frequencies. Short coax runs and the lightest coax (RG-174, light but high loss) are helpful. End fed or bottom feed antennas make it easier to use short coax runs. You don't want to center feed a dipole at 30 feet. But, end feds usually require a balun and a tuner. Conundrum!

Siting the antenna is critical. You don't want to take a low elevation angle antenna (like, a ground mounted vertical) to a location surrounded by obstructions. If you do, the antenna won't work. Do you have multiple antenna setups with different takeoff angles for different sites? If not, what kind of site do you need in order to be successful with the portable antenna you have? Where are the sites that fit that requirement? You might have to "take the site to the antenna" and not vice-versa!

Portable QRP operation demands efficiency across the board. Get rid of weight, RF losses, and power consumption. Choose the antenna carefully for the particular site. Don't operate SSB, smearing your power across a 2 KHz bandwidth.

Run with CW. Be a part of history, and succeed in the present – at the same time.

- Jim Eatman KG5WAW

ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the *On the Air* podcast (Episode 5) focuses on the various types of modulation and tips on go-kits. The *On the Air* podcast is a monthly companion to *On the Air* magazine, ARRL's magazine for beginner-to-intermediate ham radio operators.

The latest episode of the *Eclectic Tech* podcast (Episode 9) includes a discussion of CW decoding software, intermodulation distortion, and blockchain technology.

The *On the Air* and *Eclectic Tech* podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android), as well as on Blubrry -- On the Air | Eclectic Tech.

The Sunrise CW Net meets at 7 am CST every morning on 7.123 MHz. This is a great net for CW beginners, since the net tends to operate at reasonable (< 20 wpm) speeds. Even if you don't join the net, listening in is a good practice for reading Morse code. https://qsl.net/srn/

My Ham Journey

by Jeff Feldman, KI5DDX

Two simultaneous events forever burned in my memory: a crystal radio my Dad built in one of my Grandfather's Dutch Master cigar boxes, with earphones from a transistor radio clipped in, along with a wire antenna strung up on a telephone pole; and news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy I caught on air the first time we first scratched the crystal.

Forward slightly to 1964 in the new shiny suburbs of Minneapolis. Mr. Payne was my neighbor a few doors down from my child-hood home. Mr. Payne had a ham shack in his basement that looked like NASA Mission Control. Every kid in the neighborhood between six and ten years old looked forward to the periodic group invites to Mr. Payne's basement (and Ms. Payne's cookies). Mr. Payne was a good Elmer and probably inspired a few engineering careers. He piqued my interest in ham radio.

I saved up some birthday money when I was eight and bought my first pair of walkie-talkies from the Holiday gas station. I was a popular kid in the neighborhood when nine-volt batteries could be scavenged from other kids' electronic devices at home. I was hooked on wireless.

My Dad was an avid Citizen's Band Radio operator in the mid-1960's. He installed a mobile rig in his 1966 Chevrolet Biscayne. At nine years old, I spent many hours in the driveway listening to traffic on my favorite channels. I became friends, talking with many local CBers. Talking to anyone and everyone put me on an even keel with the adults. I was especially fascinated when "skip" was active. My Dad and I could talk to operators in neighboring states and beyond. The radio in came in very handy when we went hunting, shooting or fishing together. On a trip to Winnipeg to visit relatives, the border patrol on the Canadian side confiscated the radio, but it was returned when we crossed back into the U.S. I learned that freedom of speech (hence radio communications) was a rare liberty confined to a few countries.

When I was ten, I received a Radio Shack circuit project board. It was a box that had various transistors, resistors, relays, capacitors and photocells mounted with spring connectors that you connected with wires per a project diagram in the instruction book. I built all 100 circuits and had hours of fun building radios, spy equipment, light activated sirens and as many generally obnoxious projects as I could foist on a younger sister. I still have the project book. The book explained well the how and the whys of the circuits worked and what the various components did and controlled. It was essentially an EE degree in a box.

My parents divorced when I was seven. Dad bought me a Hallicrafters base station for my eleventh birthday. Dad and friends installed a ground plane antenna on top of my house. It was like a barn raising. From my bedroom, I had a good ten to fifteen-mile range. Dad and I radioed back and forth on his way to work each morning when school was out. In those days, you plugged in frequency specific crystals to access different channels. I had a dozen crystals to change frequencies, but only six channels of access at any given time.

Ham, Continued on page 6

Ham, Continued from page 5

(While I do have a Polaroid of my actual radio, this photo is nearly identical to the one I had in my bedroom; crystals used in the radio are to the right)

At thirteen, I began to hang around with my cousin Steve who was about seven years older. He was an Extra. He gave Mr. Payne a run for his money. I was very intrigued with his slow-scan TV broadcast capabilities. This ham shack occupied the entire basement except for Steve's bed and a bathroom.

Uncle Jake (Steve's Dad) was working on his ham license and his private pilot's license. He invited me to attend class with him and get my Novice license, too. The class was hard but gratifying. We had to learn basic electronics that included vacuum tube function, circuits, reading resistors' color banding schemes, transistors, and the dreaded Morse Code (CW). Integrated circuits were still futuristic. I earned my Novice license: WN0 FWR.

At this time, I moved my bedroom to the basement. Time to set up my ham shack. I built a Heath Kit HW-16 from scratch with proceeds from a summer job at my Uncle's garment factory. I helped string a dipole in the back yard and went to CW heaven. In a very short time, the bedroom wall above my transceiver's desk was covered in QSR cards from all over the western hemisphere. In those days, you had to log all your contacts; it wasn't optional.

I had joined the local Civil Air Patrol a year earlier. That summer, I went to Wing Camp where we participated in a two-week boot-camp experience on an operating US Airforce base. A commanding officer found out I was a ham and could properly take CW and phone traffic. I was put in charge of communications for the Wing for the duration of our stay. I learned that it pays to be a ham; It got me out of daily 2-hour kitchen patrol duty.

Around my fifteenth birthday, my Mother and her husband decided to move the family from Minnesota to Texas. I had to put away my hobbies to go to work and juggle school.

When I was 20 and attending the University of Texas in Dallas (Biology), I applied for a low-level position at Rockwell in Richardson. The receptionist asked if I had an Electrical Engineering degree. She said that I would need to take an aptitude test and would likely fail without the electrical engineering background. I told her that I did not have an electrical engineering degree, but she gave me the test anyway. I completed the test and returned it to her. She scored the test and I received a near perfect score. She was shocked. I did not get the job, but it was gratifying beating the test anyway.

Fast forward forty-seven years. After a wonderful life with a wonderful wife, four children and eight grandkids, the world looks like it is going to need her hams, sooner than later. I sought out the local club (thank you SARA) and poof! I am a Tech. Only this time I didn't need CW and very little electrical engineering knowledge!

In addition to my initial purchase of a Yaesu Ft-60 hand-held, I recently purchased a Yaesu FT-2980 R mobile/base transceiver (mono-band 2 meter), did a do-it-yourself closed-space antenna build (thank you Johnnie - Madame Secretary and John - Mr. President for the help) and was excited to be able to join a SARA simplex net in March. The digital world is very different from the analog world I grew up in, but I like it!

As soon as things settle down at work, a General ticket is in my sights. In the meantime, I am having fun, rekindling a love for wireless, hanging with the great SARA folks and other hams, and looking forward to serving my community and club going forward. I live in an HOA community, so I'm looking at possible future antenna solutions.

73s

by Johnnie Young, KG5CQO

Why CW? Once I became interested in Ham Radio, I wanted Ham Radio the old way; tubes, CW etcetera. I felt that a radio with all the components that did the work for you was cheating. So, I decided I would do the one thing I could learn by practice, CW.

It sounded musical to me and when I started to practice it reminded me of when I learned to type. Say the letter hit the key. CW, hear the letter, say or write it. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat. There are many different ways to go about learning CW, so there is a way that will work for you. I learned the sounds of the characters first on my own, but I have always done better when I can be part of a class and ask questions. I took a beginner class with CW Academy with a mentor from the PARK group.

The key is to commit the time and practice, practice, practice. After all this is a new skill that will work best when you can do it without thinking, like typing. I did pass the beginner class but did not the next class, Basic, because I did not feel like I was ready. I had to do hard thinking to remember the sounds of the characters. When I was ready to sign up for the Basic class, my mentor told me about a beginner class I could audit. Thus, I participated and practiced, practiced, practiced and got better and closer to instant recognition to the sounds of the characters. I improved and passed again, better this time. I am to the point where I can copy code as long as it is not sent fast, if it is sent slow. I am starting to get on the air, which is highly recommended.

Besides learning the sounds of the characters, you will learn short ways to send some words. Reminds me of texting. So now I will start The Basic Class in June. This class works some more on instant recognition and on increasing you copying skills. I am still not where I want to be with my copy skills. Many times, I miss a lot of the transmission. Add to that the noise level and the speed of the sender and it can sound very foreign. But, I know, if I continue to practice, practice, practice and get on the air, I will get better and better.

If you are interested, I will help in any way I can. Just remember this is a commitment on your part. You must practice every day and continue to practice each new skill until you can do code without thinking, like typing. But it sure is lots of fun and when you understand your first CW QSO, what a great feeling of 'I did it"!

(--… …--) that is code for 73

SARA Club Officers for 2019-2020

President	John Smyder, W5JWS
Vice President	Greg Kent, KK6AXF
Secretary	Johnnie Young, KG5CQO
Treasurer	David Mandala, KG5WFS
Public Information Officer	John Briggs, KC6TVF
Director at Large	Mark Mantooth, KI5CYA
Newsletter Editor	Steve Harbin, W5SOT

The SARA General Meeting Thursday, June 13, will be Online!

Use this Link:

June General Meeting

Discovering Circuit Simulation

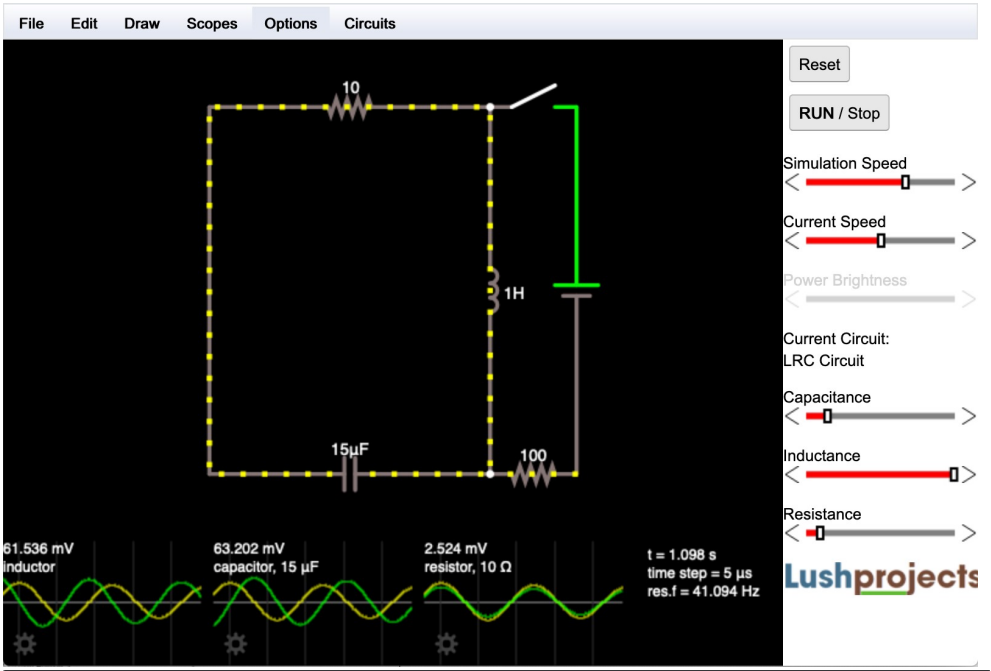
by Lonnie Webb, KG5WHQ

I have been so bored that building a plastic box with a radio became the most exciting event of COVID-19.

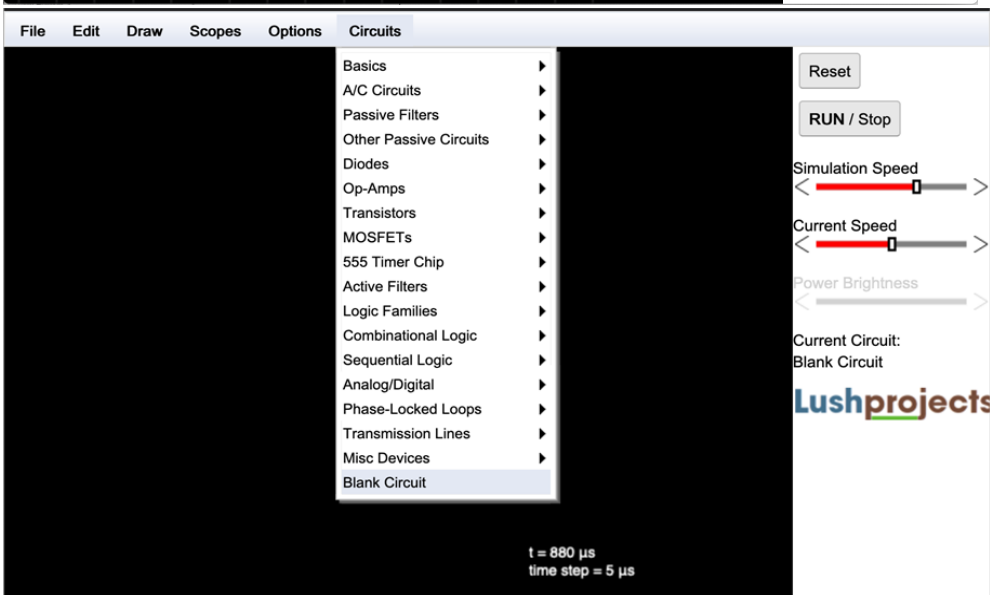
In spite of the many mantras of electronics such as “Test! Test! Test!” I can more clearly identify a new one: “Pow! Pop! Fzzt!” As our friend Murphy would dictate, I promptly discovered circuit designers right after finishing my go -box 12-volt power circuits. Prompt, huh?

There are many good circuit designers available. I opted for some simple goals: free (I’m cheap!), open source, runs anywhere, and works well on an iPad. The Lushprojects tool fit the bill:

http://lushprojects.com/circuitjs/



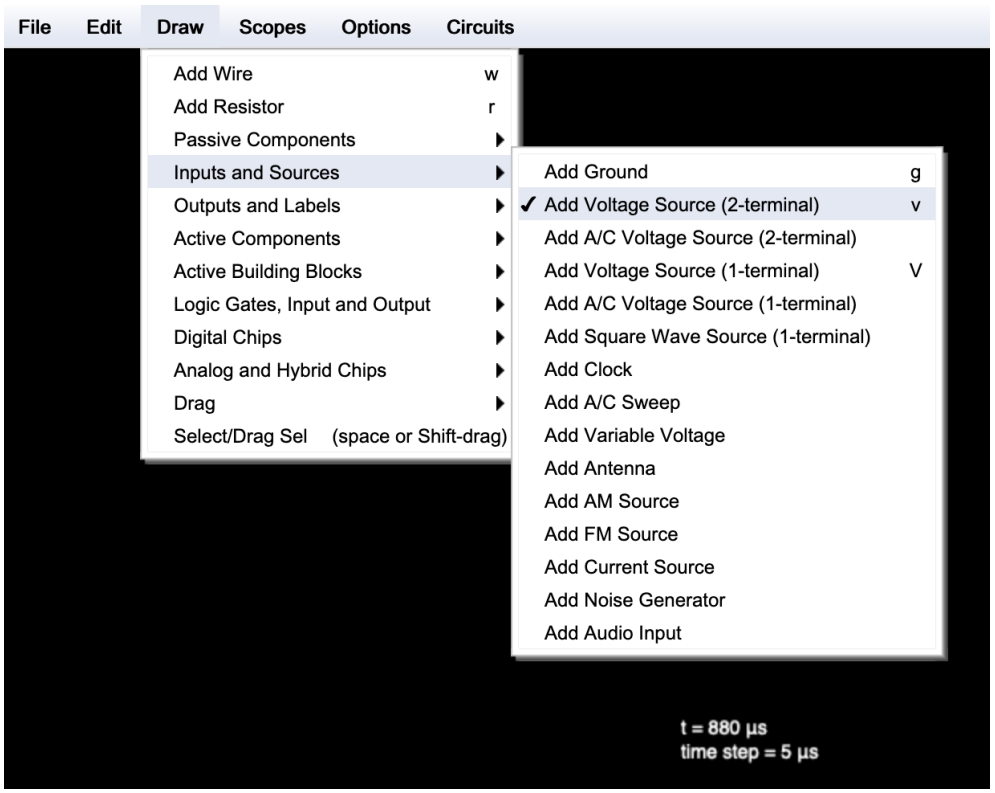
This version is not the first iteration of this project but has the benefit of not needing any plugins, installs, and just runs on any HTML 5 browser. It suffers on the iPad momentarily from my clunky fingers but works. QST readers have seen screenshots from this beastie before.



To start out with the tool, go to the link provided. I started with a new circuit by clicking **Circuits=>Blank Circuit**.

Circuit, Continued on page 9

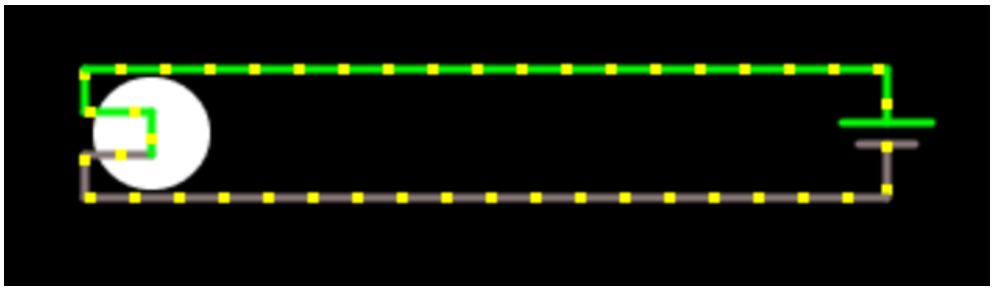
Circuit, Continued from page 8



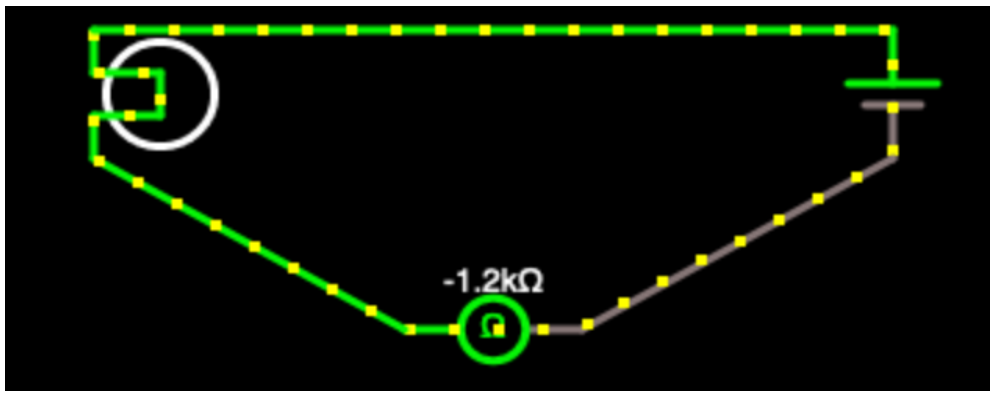
Now I am going to make a 12v flashlight. I'll add a battery by clicking **Draw=>Inputs and Sources.**

I drop one on the canvas and then right-click to set the voltage at 12v.

Then I drop a 12v lamp on the circuit by clicking **Draw=>Outputs and Labels=>Add LAMP**. I can then wire it up with **Draw=>Add wire**.



Follow that up by clicking **RUN** to see your circuit work.

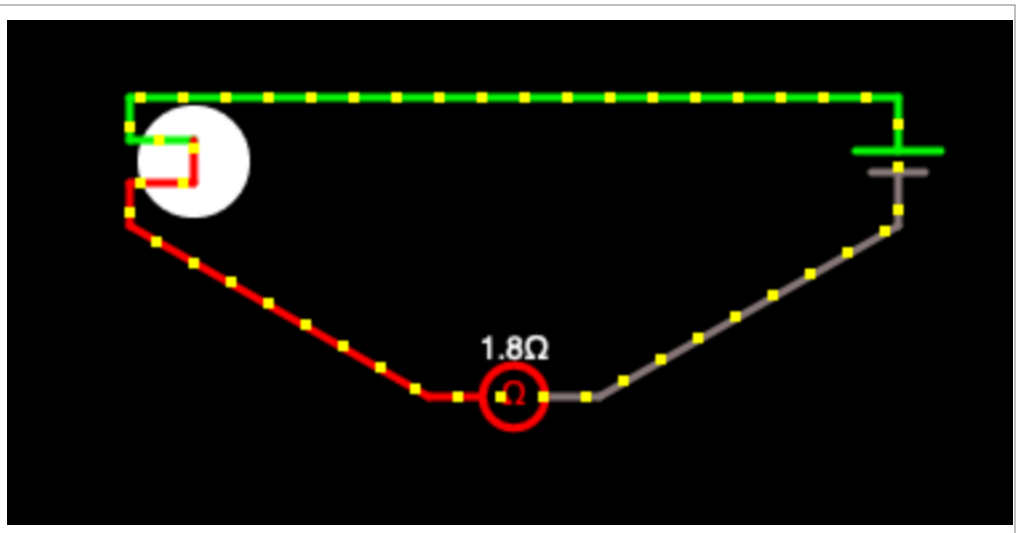


If you hover over the components in the circuit now you can see their properties in the inspector in the bottom right.

You can add an ohmmeter in the circuit but be aware it affects the lamp as it runs over time. You can increase the current in the ohmmeter. This may be backwards and a little evil.

Circuit, Continued on page 10

Circuit, Continued from page 9



You can cause a fault that turns the wire red by raising the current to it's maximum. The bulb will eventually burn out!

This is similar to what happened when I modeled my first DPDT dual power source circuit. After several POWs, POPs, and FIZZTs I checked the simulator and found my first red wire. Swap those terminals as needed!

The modeled circuit is a terrible flashlight and not really an in-depth tutorial. I'm willing to dare you to construct a radio using it, however! Dig into the tool and be sure to tell our newsletter what you made.

To finish up, this is a cool toy and represents the real world with very specific parts. The drag mode is unusual but it will be very helpful to move parts around the circuit. I like the mouse better than the touch interface. And circuit-labs' designer might be a more "pro" design tool but not a better simulator.

Go burn some virtual components to the ground!

http://lushprojects.com/circuitjs/

73, Lonnie

W5UWE & W5UWF Backyard VHF / UHF Radios & Antennas

Outdoor emergency communications radios and antennas set-up, which can be powered from solar generator source, all located on covered patio behind home.

Antenna on speaker stand with EMT pipe extension is 15' AGL (uses LMR400 cable to mobile radio) and gets good coverage all the way from Dallas repeaters (W5FC) to McKinney repeaters (W5MRC) and also RWK - K5RWK, GARC - K5QHD, SARA - N5LOC & W5SRA, PARK - K5PRK, etc..., regarding all local resources.

Antenna on PVC pipe is 10' AGL and made from coat hangers and RG8X cable to handheld radio.

SARA Repeater Fund Raiser

Who we are: Sachse Amateur Radio Association (SARA). We have members from our surrounding communities: Sachse, Wylie, Murphy, Garland, Rowlett and other local cities.

Why we exist: Amateur Radio, also known as **ham radio**, is the use of radio frequency spectrum for purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, private recreation, radio-sport, contesting, and ***Emergency Communication***. We have events to support the community and teach our membership how to support the community both for emergency and non-emergency ways.

Events we support are: Sachse Cars under the Stars, Wylie Championship Rodeo, Sachse Fall Fest, Sachse Red White and Blue Blast, Monthly Sachse Outdoor Warning Siren testing and other events providing radio communication support and more.

How we practice being ready to support the community in an emergency: weekly and fortnightly having controlled radio nets both on a repeater and simplex radio networks so that in the event of an emergency we can respond with communications if needed.

Why is this important: In the event of a disaster (natural or man-made) cell phone towers may go offline, Police and Fire communications also might go offline or be overwhelmed with calls. **Amateur Radio** is a backup solution in the event of an emergency. An example of this was Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Most of the island lost power and phone coverage (both land line and cell phone were out). The Red Cross contacted the American Radio Relay League and requested help, "We need 50 of your best radio operators to go down to Puerto Rico.". See https://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/us/puerto-rico-maria-ham-radio-operators-trnd/index.html for more detail. Now we are not going get hit with a hurricane here in the SARA north Texas area but we could be and have been hit with tornadoes, and large hail storms that have done a lot of damage and have in some cases knocked out communications in the process.

What are we trying to accomplish: We are trying to raise money to setup a Sachse Amateur Radio Association owned Radio Repeater. This will give us greater coverage of the local area in the event of an emergency. We have been slowly saving club finds to afford a repeater, but we are a small club, and to date we have not reached out to the local community for assistance. Until recently there have be privately owned repeaters available, but recently one of those repeaters went offline permanently, another has been having issues with interference for technical reasons. So, we are feeling the pressure to get a new repeater online in the community to have good coverage in the event it's needed. We have found a local church that is willing to house the repeater and provide power and 24-hour access to the repeater in the event of problems.

How you can help: You can donate to our fund-raising drive, and since we are a 501c3 charitable organization we can give you a receipt that can be used with the IRS. Even small donations will help, if 100 people donate $20 that would help pay for the necessary antenna to cover the community. If 200 people were to donate $40 each, we could afford to put up a tall tower and purchase an even better radio then planned which provide even better coverage for the community on what, right now, is our shoe string budget. It's really up to you, will you help us to help you in the event of an emergency? If so please donate! If you would like more info please contact one of the Board members or email David Mandala at treasurer@sachseradio.org

1 An **amateur radio repeater** is an electronic device that receives a weak or low-level amateur radio signal and retransmits it at a higher level or higher power, so that the signal can cover longer distances without degradation. See: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_radio_repeater

Sachse Amateur Radio Association
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2020

Start time: 7:30 pm
Location: Via Google Meet
Facilitator: John Smyder (W5JWS) President

Opening

John Smyder (W5JWS) President

Everyone introduced themselves and gave their call sign

Johnnie Young (KG5CQO) listed each attendee as introductions were made

Attendees

14 members
1 guest

President's report – John Smyder (W5JWS)

Next board meeting is May 28th

Home or on-line

Next general meeting is June 11th, 7:30 pm, may be virtual

Watch for weekly upcoming activities, e-mail and newsletter

Vice-President – Gregg Kent (KK6AXF)

Activities committee

Field Day – June 27th and 28th

May still have social distancing

Other ideas;

E-mail (**Greg Kent KK6AXF)** at KK6AXF@gmail.com

Sachse Amateur Radio Association
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2020

Secretary – Johnnie Young (KG5CQO)

Minutes for the April meeting are posted on the web site, and were published in the newsletter

Motion to accept – **Linda Smyder (K5LCS)**

2nd to accept motion – **Greg Kent (KK6AXF)**

No one opposed

Motion passed

Treasurer – David Mandala (KG5WFS)

Financial sheet for May updated to May 12th since meeting date has moved to beginning of the month

Review of finances was presented

Motion to accept – **Johnnie Young (KG5CQO)**

2nd to accept motion – **Mark Mantooth (KI5CYA)**

No one opposed

Motion passed

Information Officer – John Briggs (KC6TVF)

Saturday – QSO breakfast @ Woodbridge Cafe @ 8:00

Opened for take out and eat in with limit

Next VE Session – June 13th, Wylie Masonic Lodge

Need volunteers for NCS repeater

June 3rd **Linda Smyder – K5LCS**

June 10th **Lonnie Webb – KG5WHQ**

June 17th **John Smyder – W5JWS**

June 24th **Steve Harbin – W5SOT**

Simplex Net will be only once a month and will be on the third Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Simplex Net NCS

June 16th **Johnnie Young – KG5CQO**

Newsletter editor – Steve Harbin (W5SOT)

News letter was sent via e-mail and is on the SARA web site

Distribution #113

Submissions due by the 1st day of the month

Goal—to have the newsletter out a week prior to the general meeting

Always can use news articles and ideas

Projects you are working on or have completed

Events and activities related to Ham Radio

Articles you have read in other publications

Take pictures at all events & send to the Newsletter editor

Steve Harbin (W5SOT)

at newslettereditor@sachseradio.org

The newsletters are really good when members send in articles

Director-at-Large – Mark Mantooth (KI5CYA)

Nothing to report

Education Officer – John Smyder (W5JWS)

Ideas for upcoming meetings

Please help with subject matter

Upcoming General Meeting Subject Plans

June – Field Day FD 2020 – June 27th/June 28th

July – WinLink Practical – **John Smyder W5JWS**

Aug – Coordinated Fox Hunt – **Mike McCafferty N5MMC**

Sept – BOD elections

Will need a nominating committee

Sachse Amateur Radio Association
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2020

Guest Speaker

Tom Schuessler – N5HYP

AmSat Amateur Radio (Satellites) in Space

Presentation included how FM satellites have helped to advance Amateur Radio in Space. Most of the advancements in Satellites is by volunteers.

The Fox-1 Satellites are CubeSat—standardized 10 x 10 x 10 cm (4-inch square) single channel FM transponders.

Educational Institutions take part in this

Fox 1E, the final in the Fox 1 Satellites will be a linear transponder

Next is the Gulf Series

When the Fox 1E is done the satellite is released for Amateur Radio use

This is a group you can join

Technicians can also use these satellites and all can earn awards

There are many types

- Repeaters, Linear Transponders, Digital, Specialty modes and Telemetry only

You will need

- A dual band transceiver
- A directional antenna
- A Satellite tracking app
  - Sat Sat
  - Go Sat
- Windows – Sat PC 32

Then you can go and have fun communicating by Satellite

Adjourned: 9:00 pm

Motion – **David Mandala – KG5WFS**

2nd the motion – **John Abbott – KF5FWK**

No one opposed

Motion passed

Sachse Amateur Radio Association Weekly Repeater Net Script

Version: 6.0 - March 1, 2020

Good evening and welcome to the "*Ham Radio in Sachse*" Weekly Information Net. My name is (*name, call sign*), and I will be your net control this evening. ***(pause)*** This net is heard every Wednesday evening at 8:00pm on the N5LOC repeater, on frequency 145.250, using a PL tone of 141.3. All licensed amateurs are invited and encouraged to participate, whether you are a club member or guest. ***(pause)***. This is a Directed Net. Please do not transmit unless directed to do so by Net Control. If the net should go down, everyone should switch to simplex frequency 146.400, with no PL tone or offset. Also, if at any time, you have an emergency to report, break in by saying "Priority" or "Emergency" followed by your call sign and the net will stand by. An emergency is defined as the imminent threat to life or property. **Is there any emergency, priority or time sensitive traffic at this time?** ***Pause***

Check-Ins:
We will begin by taking check-ins, three at a time. If you would like to check into this net, please give your call sign phonetically, your name and repeat your Call Sign alphanumerically slowly, so Net Control can write it down. I will take three check-ins now.
(*write down and read back call signs of check ins*). (Remember: Echo Link users (if any) need a few extra seconds to respond). (You might ask if there are any Echo Link users who would like to check-in.)

Club Announcements: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our first topic will be announcements from club officers. Any club officer on the net with an announcement, please give your call sign now.

Member & General Comments: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our next topic is member & general comments. Any member of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, or anyone else on this net, who would like to make a comment, please give your call sign now.

Tech Talk: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now it is time for Tech Talk. You might ask any questions you have of a technical nature regarding amateur radio or computers. You might share any information or comments that you think would be valuable for the group. If anyone has an item for Tech Talk, please give your call sign now.

Swap Shop: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
The next topic is Swap Shop. Anyone wishing to buy, sell, trade, or give away items related to ham radio or computers is invited to do so. Please do not haggle over price on the air. If anyone has an item for Swap Shop, please give your call sign now.

Education: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now we would like to know if anyone has an idea for an Education Presentation. Anyone who wants to suggest an item for a future presentation, or who has a presentation to share this evening, please give your call sign now.

How Was Your HAM Week: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now for the fun part of our hobby, "***How Was Your HAM Week***". This exercise allows any station to share anything related to HAM Radio. Example topics can be "DX'ing Observations", "Experiences", "Challenges", "Lesson-Learn with your equipment", "Victories on a project" or even something you have learned from a "not so successful project". Whether you are a member or guest, this exercise is voluntary. No station is under obligation to share anything. As your Net Control, I will start by briefly sharing my "Ham Week". (Share something you recently did.) If any station would like to share their "Ham Week", simply give your Call Sign and Net Control will recognize your station and give you the platform to share. (*Net Control – provide positive feedback on their topic.)*

Late Check-Ins: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Before we end this Net, I would like to take late check-ins. If there are any late check-ins, whether RF or Echo Link, please give your call sign and name slowly and clearly. (*write down and read back each call sign*).

Last Call:
This is now the last call for any station that might have any comments? Please give your call sign.

Wrap-Up: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
This concludes the "Ham Radio in Sachse" Weekly Information Net. If you would like more information about the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, please visit our web site at www.sachseradio.org. This is (*call sign*) and we now return the N5LOC repeater to its normal use.

Sachse Amateur Radio Association Simplex Net Script

Version: 6.2 - April 25, 2020

Good evening and welcome to the "*Ham Radio in Sachse*" Simplex Net. My name is (*name, call sign*), and I will be your net control this evening. This net is heard every 3rd Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm on a frequency of 146.40 Simplex. Therefore, there is no need for an offset or PL tone. All licensed amateurs are invited and encouraged to participate, whether you are a club member or guest. This is a Directed Net. Please do not transmit unless directed to do so by Net Control. At the end of check-ins, I will ask for relays of check-ins I acknowledged, that you did not hear, and check-ins that I did not hear. Near the end of the program, I will ask for a signal report. If at any time, you have an emergency to report, break in by saying "Priority" or "Emergency" followed by your call sign and the net will stand by. An emergency is defined as the imminent threat to life or property. **Is there any emergency, priority or time sensitive traffic at this time?** ***Pause—***
hearing none...

Check-Ins:
We will begin by taking check-ins, three at a time. If you would like to check into this net, please give your call sign phonetically, your name and repeat your call sign alphanumerically, so Net Control can write it down. Please come now in groups of 3.
(*write down and read back call signs of check ins*).
When there are no more check-ins, go through the list and ask if anyone heard a check-in that you did not acknowledge or if there is a check-in that they did not hear.
You may have to pick a relay person for the night.
If you had to pick a relay person or persons, then remember to stop after each conversation and have the relay person pass that information on.

Club Announcements: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our first topic will be announcements from club officers. Any club officer on the net with an announcement, please give your call sign now.

Member & General Comments: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our next topic is member & general comments. Any member of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, or anyone else on this net, who would like to make a comment, please give your call sign now.

Tech Talk: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
The next topic is Tech Talk. Ask any questions you may have of a technical nature regarding amateur radio or computers. Feel free to share any information or share any comments that you find to be valuable with the group. If anyone has an item for Tech Talk, please give your call sign now.

Education: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our next topic is Education. Anyone who has an education presentation they would like to make or want to suggest an item for a future presentation, please give your call sign now.

Signal Reports: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Next, we will discuss signal reports. How does net control and/or the check-ins come across. I will now go down the list of check-ins so everyone can give a response. Please use the plain language radio checks provided on the Sachse Radio web page. (For example; net control was loud and clear.) Also please include you r power levels at the end of your signal report.
(You start)

Late Check-Ins: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Next, Net Control would like to take late check-ins. If there are any late check-ins, please give your call sign and name slowly and clearly.
(*write down and read back each call sign*).
Remember to ask if there are any check-ins you did not acknowledge or check-ins that others did not hear.

Last Call:
Before we conclude the net, are there any Stations wishing to report into the Net and/or have any comments?

Wrap-Up: ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
This concludes the "Ham Radio in Sachse" Simplex Net. If you would like more information about the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, please visit our web site at www.sachseradio.org. This is XXXXXXX and we will now return this frequency to its normal use.

Sachse Amateur Radio Association
Sachse, Texas 75048-3696
www.sachseradio.org
kf5nbo@gmail.com

Date: _____

Type of Application: New Member ☐ **or Renewal** ☐

Your Call Sign:_____ **Your License Class:**_____

Your Name:_____ **Spouses Name:**_____

Address:_____

City:_____ **State:**_____ **Zip:**_____

Home Phone:_____ **Work Phone:**_____

Cell Phone:_____ **Email:**_____

Membership Types: Please check only one option below:

☐ **Regular:** A regular member shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operator who does not fall under the special provision of an associate or student membership. Regular member dues are $25.00 per year unless prorated (see below).

☐ **Family:** A family membership shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operators and non-licensed family members interested in amateur radio who live in the immediate household. Family member dues are $30.00 per year unless

☐ **Associate:** An associate member shall be any person maintaining membership to support the association but who does not hold a license as a radio amateur. Associate member dues are $10.00 per year and are not prorated.

☐ **Student:** A student member shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operator who is currently enrolled as a full-time student, is 18 years of age or younger, and is not otherwise eligible to be included in a family membership. Student member dues are $10.00 per year and are not prorated.

If selecting Family membership, please list the family members covered by this application.

Name:_____ **Email:**_____ **Call Sign (if any):**_____ **Lic Class:**_____

Name:_____ **Email:**_____ **Call Sign (if any):**_____ **Lic Class:**_____

Membership Dues: (Please check only one)

Dues are initially paid upon joining the association. Renewal dues are paid no later than the September meeting each year. A new application must be submitted each year as well. Dues are reduced (prorated) for Regular and Family members (only) who join or renew their membership after Dec 31st:

- ☐ Joining Sep 1 thru Dec 31, pay $25.00 for Regular dues, or $30.00 for Family dues.
- ☐ Joining Jan 1 thru Mar 31, pay $18.75 for Regular dues, or $22.50 for Family dues.
- ☐ Joining Apr 1 thru Jun 30, pay $12.50 for Regular dues, or $15.00 for Family dues.
- ☐ Joining Jul 1 thru Aug 31, pay $6.25 for Regular dues, or $7.50 for Family dues.

TOTAL DUE: $_____

Are you a current member of the ARRL? YES ☐ or NO ☐ (please choose only one).

By submitting this application, either by hand or any electronic means, you hereby agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association.

Signature: _____